

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

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Claim 17. (Original) A peptide or protein comprising an amino acid sequence X₁LYQYMDDV, wherein X₁ is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising an acetylated ~~N-terminus~~ N-terminus.

Claim 19. (Original) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising a modification to the C-terminus, the modification selected from the group consisting of amidation, esterification, and reduction of a C-terminal amino acid carboxyl group.

Claims 20-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence X₁LYQYMDDV is conjugated to a heterologous molecule to form a fusion molecule.

Claim 23. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises an amino acid sequence for an HIV-1 viral protein.

Claim 24. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the molecule comprises a glycolipid, a glycoprotein, a lipoprotein, or a nucleoprotein.

Claim 25. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, further comprising an amino acid sequence for an immunostimulating carrier protein.

Claim 26. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises a T helper peptide.

Claim 27. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 26, further comprising a spacer molecule linking the immunostimulating peptide to the T helper peptide.

Claim 28. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 29. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 30. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV.

Claim 31. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, pulsed onto a dendritic cell.

Claim 32. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the patient is a primate.

Claim 33. (New) An immunostimulating peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence X_1 LYQYMDDV, wherein X_1 is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 34. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is VLYQYMDDV.

Claim 35. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV.

Claim 36. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 37. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 38. (New) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, pulsed onto a dendritic cell.